

# BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES

June 21, 2016

Town Hall

Chairman James Brochu; Selectman Robert J. Fleming; Selectman Gary Daugherty; Executive Assistant, Sandra Hakala

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm. Chairman Brochu opened the meeting and after the pledge of allegiance reviewed the agenda.

## MINUTES

**Motion #1:** Motion made by Selectman Daugherty to approve the June 7, 2016 regular session meeting minutes.

Selectman Fleming, Abstained

Second: Chairman Brochu, Majority Action of the Board.

**Motion #2:** Motion made by Selectman Daugherty to approve the June 7, 2016 executive session meeting minutes.

Selectman Fleming, Abstained

Second: Chairman Brochu, Majority Action of the Board.

## INVITED GUESTS

### Joint Election to fill vacancy on the Recreation Commission

There was a failure to elect someone to serve on the Recreation Commission at the annual election. The two sitting members of the Recreation Commission Richard Gazoorian and Richard LaCross were present at the Selectmen's meeting and held a joint election with the board to "elect" someone until the next annual election in May, 2017.

Richard LaCross motioned to nominated Debbie Amorelli to serve on the Recreation Commission until May 2017 at which time another election will take place.

Selectman Fleming seconded the motion.

Poll taken: Richard Gazoorian aye, Richard LaCross aye, Selectman Fleming aye, Selectman Daugherty aye, Chairman Brochu aye.

The motion passed unanimously.

### Motion for Appointments Personnel Board

Debbie Amorelli, Chair of the Personnel Board recommended to the Selectmen that of the three candidates considered for an opening that Ken Picard be appointed to serve.

In response to Selectman Daugherty's inquiry of the other candidates, Ms. Amorelli stated there was interest from 3 candidates to fill the opening; two candidates attended the February 1 board meeting. They observed the meeting and the members of the board had a chance to ask them questions. At the conclusion of the meeting, the members of the board discussed the two

43 candidates. They chose to table the matter citing intangibles and would not recommend either to  
44 the BOS.

45  
46 Last month Ken Picard expressed interest in serving on the Personnel Board. Ms. Amorelli  
47 explained she then individually polled other members of the personnel board and it was it was  
48 unanimously agreed that Ken Picard be recommended to the Selectman for appointment.  
49 Selectman Fleming's cited Mr. Picard's many years of service to the town and his experience,  
50 credibility and commitment and recommends that he be appointed. Chairman Brochu stated he  
51 also had no problem with the appointment.

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53 ***Motion #3:*** Motion was made by Selectman Fleming to appoint Ken Picard to the personnel  
54 board through May 2017.

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56 Second: Selectmen Daugherty, Unanimous Chairman Brochu.

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58 *Class II Public Hearing - Mc Q Sales/dba Simon Fares* – Mr. Fares was present at the meeting to  
59 discuss with the Board his intent to take over the license at 13 William Street. As part of the  
60 process this request was already acted on by the Zoning Board of Appeals who voted favorably.

61  
62 Chairman Brochu re opened the Class II Public Hearing at 6:05PM for Mr. Simon Fares who has  
63 applied for a license to sell used cars at 13 Williams Street. The current business at this location  
64 will transfer this license to Mr. Fares.

65  
66 ***Motion #6:*** Motion made by Selectman Fleming to authorize the issuance of a Class II license to  
67 Mr. Simon Fares dba Mc Q Sales at 13 Williams Street.

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69 Second: Selectmen Daugherty, Unanimous Chairman Brochu.

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71 *Representative David Muradian*

72 Representative David Muradian updated the Board on the state budget and his attempts to secure  
73 \$27,000 for replacement defibrillators. The conference committee, he said, will be looking for  
74 expenses to cut and it could be Upton's earmark. If the money is not approved, the funds for the  
75 defibrillators were approved at the Annual Town Meeting and will be purchased by the town.

76  
77 *Eagle Scout Project – Justin Hawkes*

78 Justin Hawkes presented his project to construct an open air shed at the VFW to improve the  
79 storage of their equipment. Chairman Brochu invited Mr. Hawkes to share his project with the  
80 Board not because it requires such approval, but because they like to encourage scouts to come  
81 forward to be recognized, so everybody in the town knows the great things that the scouts are  
82 doing. The Board invited Justin back to present the finished product.

### 83 84 **MANAGER'S REPORT**

85 In the Town Manger's absence Chairman Brochu reviewed Ms. Robinson's weekly report.

At the Fire Department's cookout and awards ceremony Gary Shultz was awarded Firefighter of the year; Chip Delarda, EMT/Paramedic of the year; and Anthony Cervassi – Fire Officer of the year.

Continued improvements are planned at Lakeview cemetery – there is a new section of wood fencing at the back of the property along the pond, and paving of two more streets. Working with the Cemetery Commissioners to purchase and install a new entrance sign will begin next year.

Beginning July 1st the Town Hall hours will change where an 8:00 AM start will be on all five days per week. Signage outside the building will be changed as well.

There are two important town events on scheduled for Saturday, June 25<sup>th</sup>: Board of Health – Paper Shredding Collection – VFW – 9 AM to Noon and the Men's Club fireworks – at BVT.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

#### **Motion to Award a Contract – Fisk Mill Bridge Engineering**

A recommendation from the DPW Director to execute a contract to hire Weston & Sampson to design improvements to the Fisk Mill Bridge was reviewed. The Town of Milford has already approved a contract with this firm in this joint project. DPW Director Roy updated the Selectmen on the meeting he and Mr. Cristafoli from Milford had with the bridge design group at MassDOT regarding the bridge. The State is in agreement with the approach both towns want to take on the project, and the Ms. Robinson has recommended that the Board authorize her to execute the agreement on the Town's behalf.

**Motion #4:** Motion was made by Selectman Fleming to authorize the Town Manager to execute the agreement with Weston & Sampson for design improvements to the Fisk Mill Bridge on the Town's behalf for \$40,750.00.

Second: Selectmen Daugherty, Unanimous Chairman Brochu.

#### **Discuss curbing repairs at various locations**

DPW Director Roy outlined the cost to address the failure of asphalt curbing on three streets in Town; the cost to replace all of the curbing on Hazeltine, Whitney and Oak Knoll Lane either with granite or sloped asphalt. Another option discussed would be to just replace the damaged sections of curbing with similar to what is already there. At the meeting Mr. Roy reviewed the timeframe anticipated for repaving of these streets. A longer term solution was also discussed that when the full street work is scheduled the curbing would not need to be redone. The Selectmen will continue this discussion at their next meeting.

#### **Discuss Request by Pulte Homes to Waive Water & Sewer Connection Fees for Proposed Upton Ridge Project**

Reid Blute, Vice President of Land Acquisitions detailed the plan by Pulte Homes to build a 139-unit subdivision on Hartford Avenue South on the Town line adjacent to the Shining Rock development in Northbridge. There is no water and sewer service provided by the Town to this parcel of land which would be needed to serve the homes proposed. Pulte has made a request

that the Board consider waiving all or a portion of the water and sewer connection fees for this project in return for them installing water and sewer services in this area.

Mr. Blute outlined the reasons behind their request for a waiver; “during discussions with Ms. Robinson, we learned that Upton desires to expand its water and sewer system's user base and has sufficient capacity in both systems to accommodate the proposed homes at Upton Ridge. The issue is, that although Upton has capacity in its sewer and water system, both systems (as detailed in Ms. Robinson's June 1, 2016 Memo to the Board) require significant costly upgrades and/or extensions to improve the sewer and water systems to adequately serve our project at our frontage on Hartford Ave. South. Although we would be willing to use Upton sewer and water and increase the customer base of both Town systems, the offsite costs of upgrading and extending the systems creates a significant financial hardship and endangers the success of the project.

The offsite sewer improvements are estimated to cost approximately \$1,700,000 .00. The offsite sewer work consists of running several different types of sewer main from Rockdale Hill Circle down Hartford Ave. South, under the private railroad crossing and connecting to the Town's system at Railroad Ave. A municipal sewer pump station is also proposed in our current design which provides the Town the further opportunity to add additional sewer users to the Town's system in the future. The offsite water improvement costs are proposed to cost \$690,000 and entail checking and treating the existing water main to the site and building the booster pump station needed to provide satisfactory pressure and flow to homes for both drinking water and fire suppression.

We believe that upon completion, Upton Ridge, will be a successful 139 unit senior housing community, offering the following many benefits to the Town of Upton:

- Annual property tax revenues of approximately \$1,000,000.00

- Estimated net annual fiscal benefit to the Town of over \$900,000.00 (No school costs to the Town)

- 55+ senior housing community provides long time Upton residents additional housing alternatives to downsize and remain in Town

- Provides Nine (9) affordable housing units

- Additional Upton Water Customers (System users would increase approx. 10%, generating substantial additional water fees to the Town forever)

- Additional Upton Sewer Customers (System users would increase approx. 20%, generating substantial additional sewer fees to the Town forever)

- Offsite sewer infrastructure improvements would also allow Upton to serve additional homes in the future.

This is a truly unique situation, specific to this site, which is why we are asking the Board to consider a win-win situation benefitting both the Town and Upton Ridge. We are willing to extend and upgrade Upton's sewer and water infrastructure to service the new homes at Upton Ridge so that the Town of Upton obtains additional sewer and water customers generating future sewer and water fees forever. In return, we are asking that the Town reduce or waive our sewer

and water connection fees for this project, which reduction/waiver will help offset a portion of the extraordinary costs of the offsite sewer and water work.”

The Board expressed a willingness to work with Pulte and believed with continued dialogue an agreement could be reached. The Board will individually relay their comments to the Town Manager to develop a consensus and strategy to present to Pulte Homes at their next meeting. Mr. Blute expressed a willingness to continue the discussion.

#### Review Road Race applications

The Selectmen reviewed three road race applications; the annual VFW fall race on Heritage Weekend, the Red Rock Grille & Bar Wounded Warrior event in August, and a third put on by the Milford Chamber of Commerce that follows the same course as the VFW.

**Motion #5:** Motion was made by Selectman Fleming to approve the annual VFW fall 5K race on Heritage Weekend, October 1, 2016.

Second: Selectmen Daugherty, Unanimous Chairman Brochu.

**Motion #6:** Motion was made by Selectman Fleming to approve the annual Red Rock Grille & Bar Wounded Warrior 5K event on August 13, 2016.

Second: Selectmen Daugherty, Unanimous Chairman Brochu.

**Motion #7:** Motion was made by Selectman Fleming to approve the Milford Chamber of Commerce 5K road race on July 30, 2016.

Second: Selectmen Daugherty, Unanimous Chairman Brochu.

#### Motion for Appointments

Gordon Arthur who is a 15 year resident has expressed interested in getting involved with the Cable Advisory Committee. Ms. Robinson had a chance to call him and discuss the duties of the committee and his background and thinks he would make an excellent addition.

**Motion #8:** Motion was made by Selectman Fleming to appoint Gordon Arthur to the Cable Advisory Committee through May 2017.

Second: Selectmen Daugherty, Unanimous Chairman Brochu.

#### Aquatic Weed Control Committee

As a process has been developed for DPW to take on the annual work of weed control, Ms. Robinson recommends that the Board consider disbanding this Committee. She also has also recommended that staff continue to seek the expertise of long standing chairman Charles Pedersen on any questions that may come up as he has been an invaluable resource for many years.

**Motion #9:** Motion was made by Selectman Fleming to dissolve the Aquatic Weed Control Committee and have the DPW manage the annual work of weed control.

Second: Selectmen Daugherty, Unanimous Chairman Brochu.

**Discuss Street Sign requests**

Two requests from residents to have new street signs installed were reviewed. One on Glen Avenue warning of a turtle crossing, and the other on Mechanic Street, specifically a solar powered electric sign notifying drivers of the entrance to the Community Garden. It is the recommendation of staff that these signs not be approved, and the Town Manager concurred. Though the concern by the residents that brought these forward is appreciated, for both locations the sign would serve only a seasonal need, and the cost to install them as such is probably not the best use of Town funds.

The Board took no action.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**MEETING LOOK AHEAD TOPICS**

TIP project

Grants for street light conversion

**ADJOURN MEETING**

**Motion #13:** At 8:03pm motion was made by Selectman Daugherty to adjourn the regular meeting.

Second: Selectmen Fleming, Unanimous Chairman Brochu.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Hakala

Executive Assistant